

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition consisting of comprising a peptide of SEQ ID NO:1 that inhibits binding of free light chain of immunoglobulin (LC) to mast cells, wherein when the peptide is in the presence of an equimolar quantity of the free light chain of immunoglobulin in a solution, the free light chain of immunoglobulin's binding to said mast cells is reduced by at least 5% and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

Claims 2-9 (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition for treating a disease state in a subject, said disease state characterized by exhibiting:

- i) a serum concentration of free light chain of immunoglobulin in serum of at least 8 mg/4 milligrams per liter;
- ii) a spinal fluid concentration of free light kappa-chain of immunoglobulin of at least 70 μ g/4 micrograms per liter; and/or or
- iii) a spinal fluid concentration of free lambda-chain of immunoglobulin of at least 300 μ g/4 micrograms per liter;

said pharmaceutical composition comprising consisting of a peptide of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein when the peptide is in the presence of an equimolar quantity of free light chain of immunoglobulin (LC), the peptide reduces the equimolar quantity of LC's binding to mast cells present in solution therewith by at least 5%, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

Claims 11-32 (Canceled)

33. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the peptide is present in an amount sufficient to treat a bronchial constriction.

34. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 33, wherein the peptide is present in an amount of 200 micrograms.